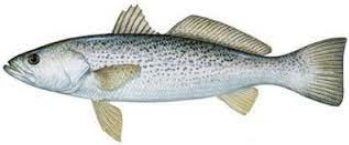
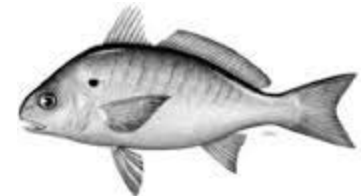
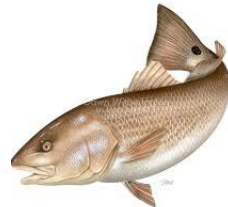


Estuarine and Marine Fisheries

Division Report



Michael Luisi
Director, E&M Division
MD DNR Fisheries Service



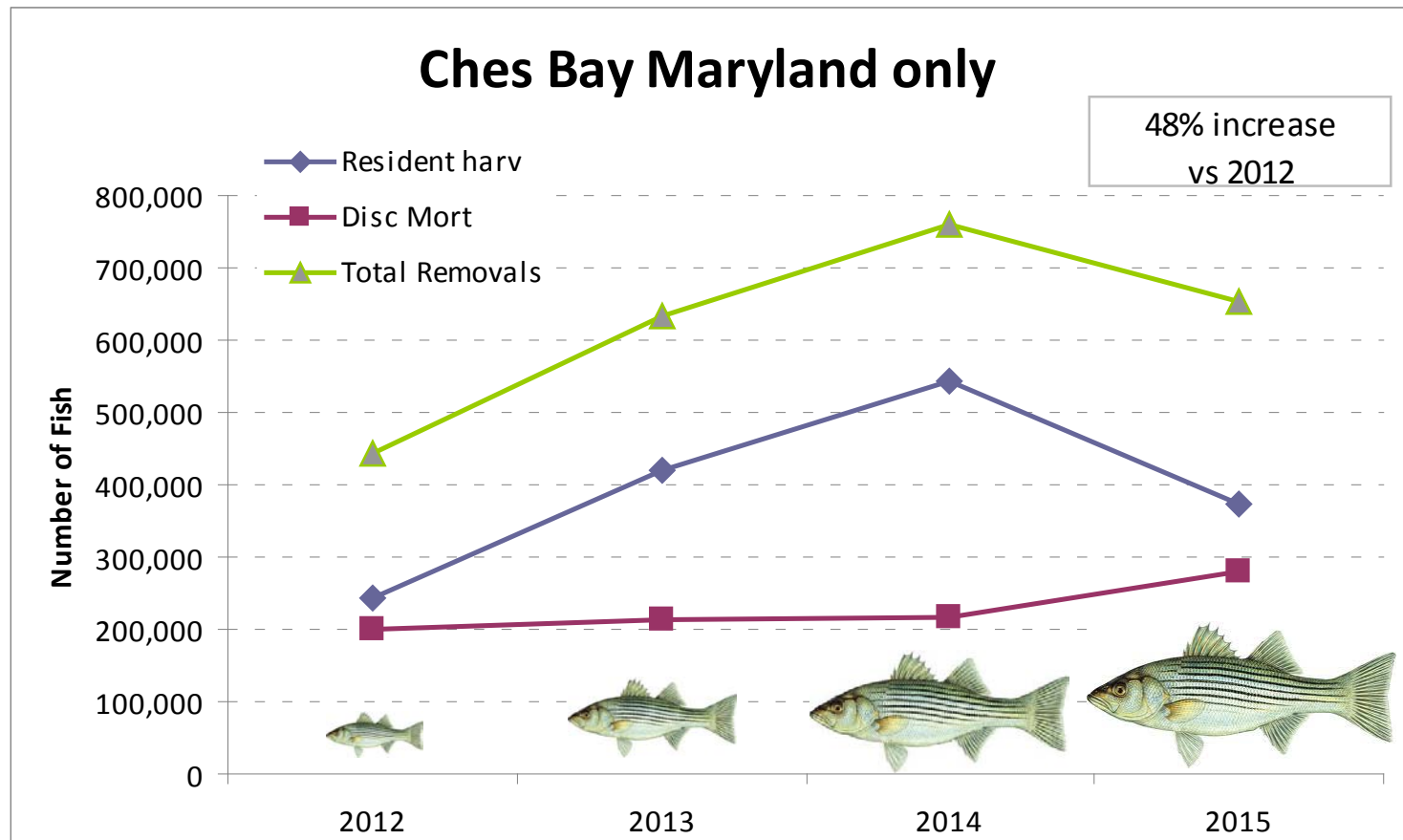
ASMFC Update

Summer Meeting / August 2-4, 2016

- **8/2: South Atlantic Board**
 - *ASMFCs Involvement in Cobia Management*
 - *Spot and Croaker Benchmark Assessment Updates*
 - *Red Drum Tasks related to the recent assessment*
- **8/3: Atlantic Menhaden Board**
 - *Draft Addendum I – Final Action (12K By-catch Limit)*
 - *Quota Setting for 2017 – Potential for an Increase*
 - *Draft Am 3 Public Info Document / Socioeconomic Study*
- **8/3: Atlantic Striped Bass Board**
 - *State Compliance and Performance / Addendum IV*



Striped Bass / MD Performance

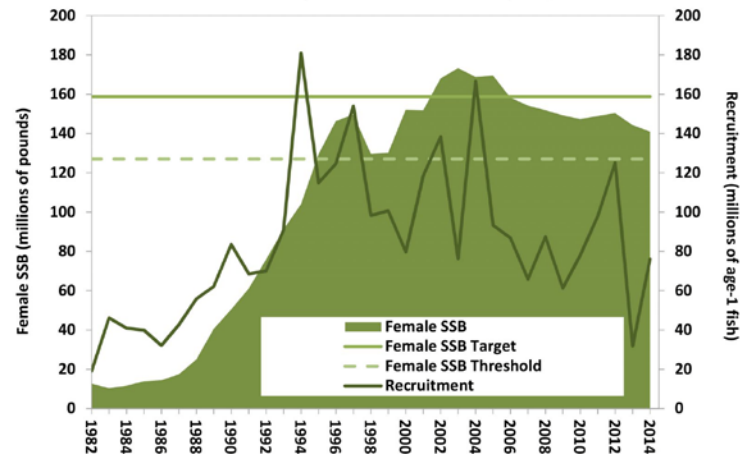


Striped Bass / 2017...And Beyond

Assessment Update / Trigger Review / 2017 Fishery

Atlantic Striped Bass Female Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB)
and Recruitment (Age-1)

Source: ASMFC Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update, 2015



MAFMC Update

August 8-11, 2016 / Virginia Beach

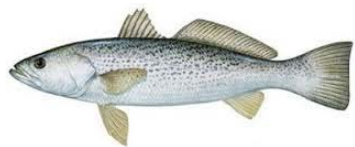
- 8/8 & 8/9: SF, Scup, BSB Board w/ Council – Joint Mtg
 - *Quota Setting for 2017 & 2018*
 - *Reductions on SF expected / SQ for BSB / BSB Assessment*
 - *Progress Update on SF Amendment*
- Omnibus Forage Fish Amendment
 - *Final Action to protect forage base in federal waters*
 - *Over 50 spp on the list for protection / incl. Chub Mackerel*



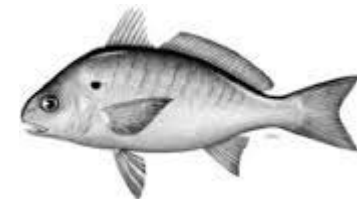
- 2016 BSB Regulations in Federal Waters

- *Final Harvest Estimates for 2015 were greater than predicted*
- *NOAA requested that States adjust rules to account for this*
- *Board had an emergency call – and the States said NO!*
- *Federal Waters COULD close on September 15th*
- *Very severe impacts to Southern States (NJ-NC) – All federal waters*

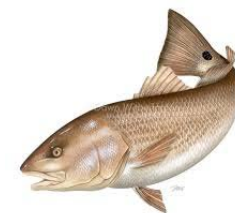




Questions?



Other E&M Division Issues?



Yellow Perch Management

FMP Amendment

- **FMP Review (Late 2013) / Draft Amendment**
 - Determination made that the **2002** FMP no longer reflected the status of the population, the fisheries, or current management
 - Plan goal and most objectives were still appropriate
 - Many action items have been completed
 - Management actions taken during 2008 – 2009 rendered some action items obsolete
 - Findings and recommendations shared with SFAC and TFAC



Yellow Perch Management

FMP Amendment

- **FMP Review (Late 2013) / Draft Amendment (Continued)**
 - Draft Amendment is ready for review
 - Amendment continues to emphasize ecosystem and habitat issues
 - Maintains current biological reference points
- **Next Steps**
 - Incorporate feedback and comments from Commissions through August 19th
 - Send to Nancy Butowski (Nancy.Butowski@Maryland.gov)
 - Final approval at the October SFAC/TFAC meetings
 - Unless the allocation review alters this plan
 - Regulatory process after draft is finalized



Yellow Perch Management

Allocation Review Request

- **Request**

- Received on May 3rd (Cecil-Harford & Balt Watermen's Associations)
- Review the underutilized portion of the YP Quota
- Outcome would be more reflective of reality

- **Next Steps (by October 30th, 2016)**

- Based on the Allocation Policy:

Within 180 days of receiving the request, the Department shall assess the request and supporting information and take one of the following actions:

- 1. Begin pre-assessment and establish timeline for completion*
- 2. Defer action to the FMP process; or,*
- 3. Reject the request for lack of merit or information*